اللجنة الاسلامية الدولية لحقوق الانسان

International Islamic Commission on Human Rights

La Commission Islamique Internationale
pour les Droits de l'Homme

PRESS RELEASE
12 August 1992

Persecution of the Opposition in Tunisia

In a press statement issued today, the London-based International Islamic Commission on Human Rights expressed deep concern and anxiety over reports that the court hearing the trials of 300 Tunisians belonging to the Nahdha (Renaissance) Party is to give its verdicts in two days time. According to these reports, the state prosecutor has demanded the death sentence for 19, and long imprisonment with hard labour for the rest.

The statement said that the arrests and trials are a clear case of persecution on political grounds and that the authorities inflicted severe physical and psychological torture on the accused to obtain confessions about crimes that they never committed. Some of the accused had to be carried to their trials on stretchers.

The Commission called upon all human rights organisations and governments committed to the protection of human rights to intervene in this most serious violation with the regime of Zamal Abdine Ben Ali in Tunisia before it is too late and to save innocent people and their families further sufferings.